

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JAKART 10668 140141Z

22

ACTION CU-04

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USIA FOR ICS/DA, IEA; TOKYO FOR RPO KENDALL

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJ: VOLSPKR PROFESSOR JOHN MERRILL, DEAN SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM,
UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI

1. PROFESSOR JOHN MERRILL, DEAN SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM,
UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI. VOLSPKR, ICS/DA. "NON-
FORMAL TRAINING FOR JOURNALISM", "THE ROLE OF PRESS
IN A DEVELOPING SOCIETY", "FORMAL EDUCATION FOR
JOURNALISTS", "NEW APPROACHES TO JOURNALISM,
SPECIALIZED REPORTING". WS-12 (PROJECT FULFILLED).

2. QP-VG; ED-E; AR-E; RP-E.

3. WITHOUT SOUNDING PREACHY, MERRILL CLEARLY ARTICULATED
THE US'S DEDICATION TO THE FREEDOM, INTEGRITY AND
RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PRESS TO AN AUDIENCE OF
TOP INDONESIAN EDITORS, PUBLISHERS, REPORTERS,
FACULTY MEMBERS, GRADUATE STUDENTS AND GOVERNMENT
OFFICIALS DURING THREE LECTURES/DISCUSSIONS
IN JAKARTA. THE FIRST SESSION WAS CO-SPONSORED
BY THE NATIONAL PRESS CLUB, THE OTHER TWO BY
THE FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AT THE UNIVERSITY
OF INDONESIA WHERE JOURNALISM IS TAUGHT. ALTHOUGH
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NOT AN IMPRESSIVE SPEAKER, MERRILL WAS EXTREMELY

EFFECTIVE IN THE DISCUSSIONS THAT FOLLOWED EACH LECTURE, QUICKLY ESTABLISHING RAPPORT WITH HIS AUDIENCES AND DEMONSTRATING A WIDE (KNOWLEDGE OF ALL ASPECTS OF JOURNALISM, BOTH THEORETICAL AND PRATICAL. THE TWO SUBJECTS OF GREATEST INTEREST WERE THE ROLE OF THE UNIVERSITY IN PROVIDING QUALIFIED PEOPLE TO THE PRESS INDUSTRY, AND THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PRESS, WHICH IN INDONESIA IS A SENSITIVE ONE. A NUMBER OF EDITORS, FACULTY MEMBERS AND OTHERS SAID THAT THEY WOULD LIKE TO SEE MERRILL RETURN NEXT YEAR FOR A LONGER SEMINAR MORE SPECIFICALLY STRUCTURED TO LOCAL MEDIA PROBLEMS. REGRETTABLYN ICS DID NOT SUPPLY THE MATERIALS REQUESTED TO SUPPORT THE PROGRAM WHILE IN PROGRESS. THE POST WILL ORDER COPIES OF ONE OF MERRILL'S LATEST BOOKS "THE IMPERATIVE OF FREEDOM" FOR PRESENTATION TO SELECTED PARTICIPANTS AS FOLLOW-UP TO HIS PROGRAM. POST COULD WELL PROGRAM MERRILL FURTHER AND HOPES HE CAN RETURN NEXT YEAR.
LAVIN

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